

# INTERNATIONAL IRON MAN™ 4

**MARVEL**

*BENDIS  
MALEEV  
MOUNTS*



CIVIL WAR™ II



# INTERNATIONAL **IRON** MAN

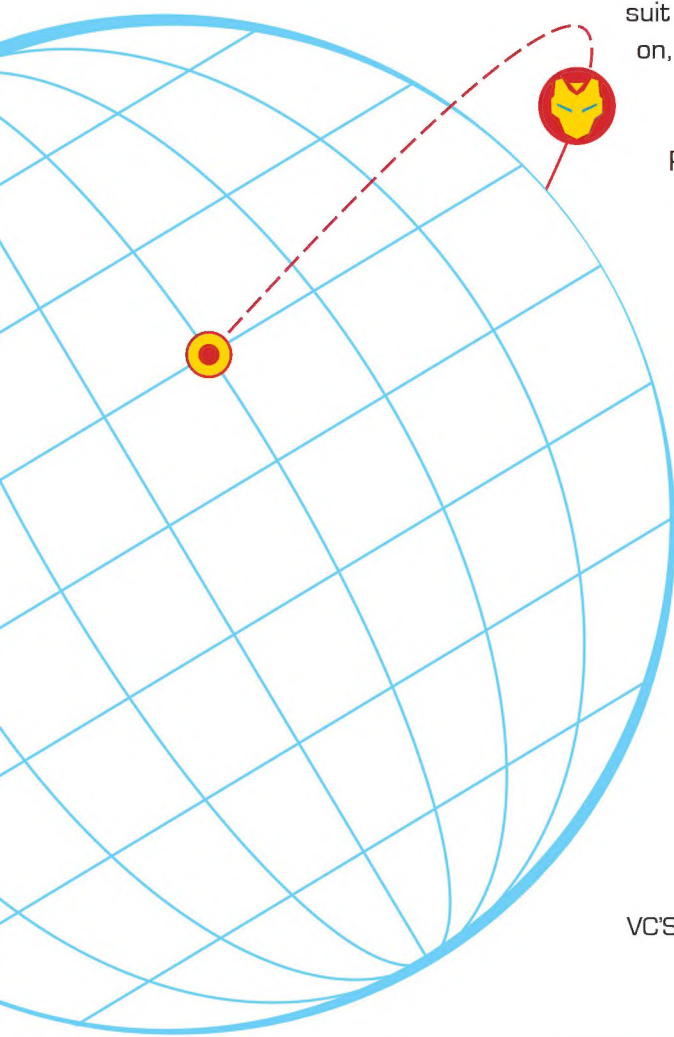
ANOTHER STARK INNOVATION

.....

Billionaire playboy and genius industrialist Tony Stark was kidnapped during a routine weapons test. His captors attempted to force him to build a weapon of mass destruction. Instead, he created a powered suit of armor that saved his life. From that day on, he used the suit to protect the world as the invincible **IRON MAN**.

Recently, Tony discovered that Howard and Maria Stark weren't his birth parents. His search for his real father led him to his childhood sweetheart, Cassandra Gillespie—an arms dealer's daughter—who Tony tried to run away with in college.

Tony managed to corner Cassandra—now an arms dealer herself—in her luxurious compound in Bulgaria. But will she actually be able to tell Tony who his father is?



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IRON MAN **CREATED BY** STAN LEE, LARRY LIEBER, DON HECK **AND** JACK KIRBY

.....



ONE WEEK AGO.

--SO MANY QUESTIONS ARE STILL UNANSWERED ABOUT YESTERDAY'S AVERTED COSMIC-LEVEL THREAT.

EYEWITNESS REPORTS AND NUMEROUS AMATEUR VIDEOS SHOW CAPTAIN MARVEL AND IRON MAN WORKING IN TANDEM WITH WHAT SEEMS TO BE JUST ABOUT THE ENTIRE SUPER HERO COMMUNITY.

WE'VE REACHED OUT TO STARK REPRESENTATIVES FOR A COMMENT ON THE SITUATION, BUT AS OF THIS AIRING, WE HAVE NOT HEARD BACK.

OH, THAT REMINDS ME, MR. STARK--THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS MEDIA REQUESTS ABOUT YESTERDAY'S AVERTED COSMIC-LEVEL THREAT--

REST ASSURED, AS SOON AS WE HAVE MORE INFORMATION WE WILL FORWARD IT ALONG TO YOU.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GRANT AN INTERVIEW OR--?

IN OTHER NEWS, A TALKING PUCK CALLING HIMSELF HOWARD WAS ARRESTED AGAIN, THIS TIME FOR WEARING A RED SPANDEX--

FRIDAY?

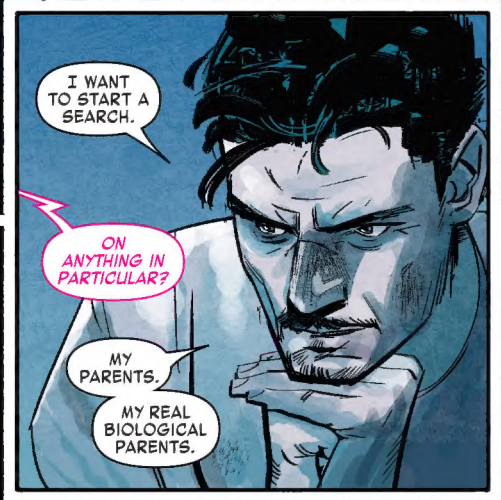
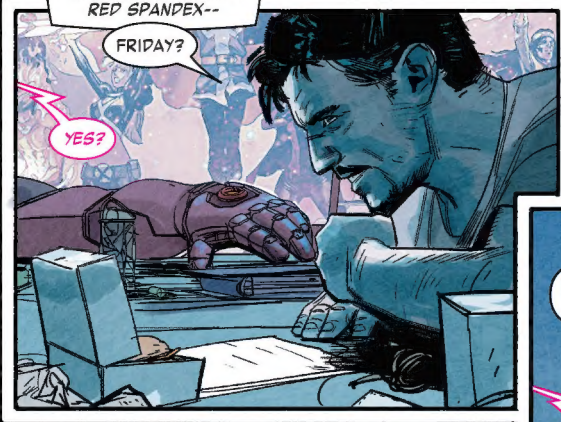
YES?

I WANT TO START A SEARCH.

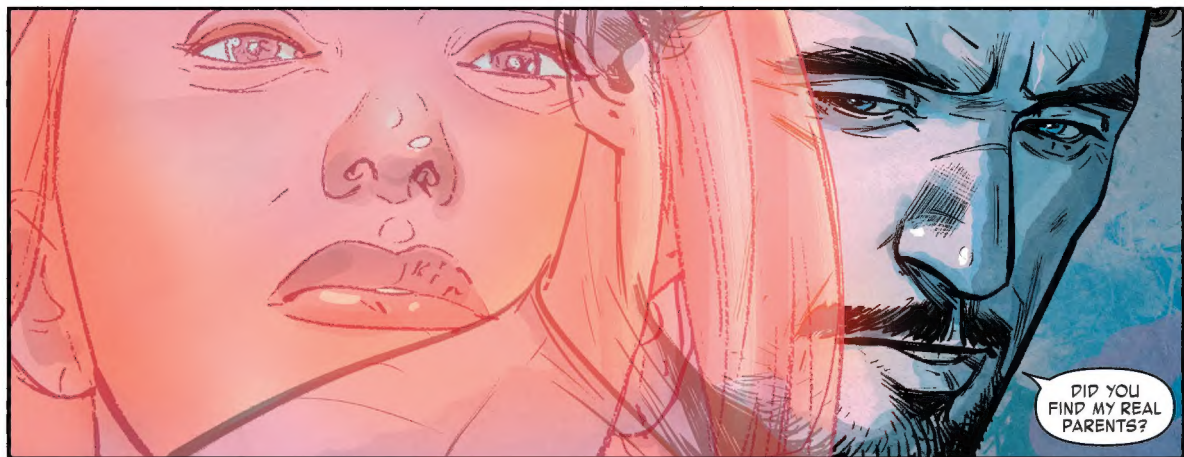
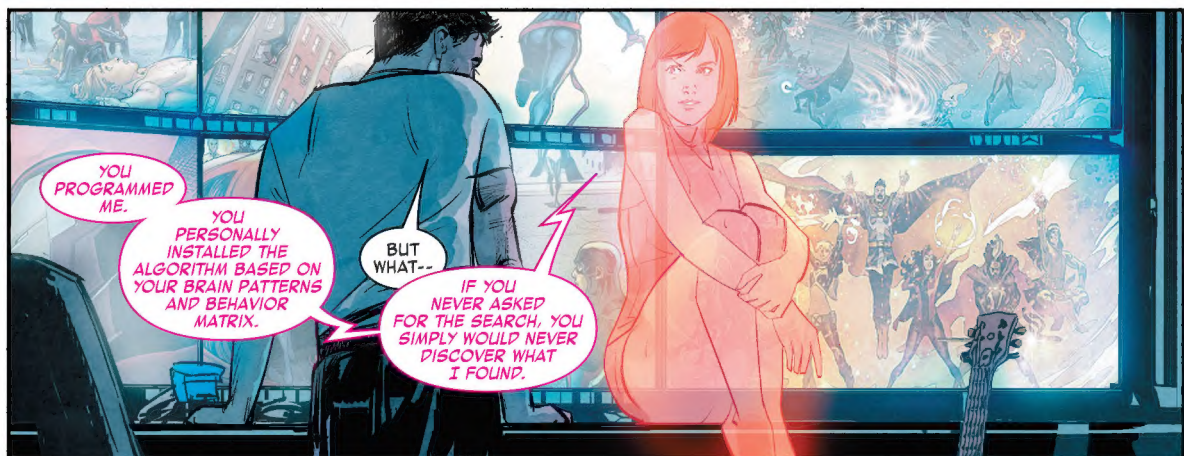
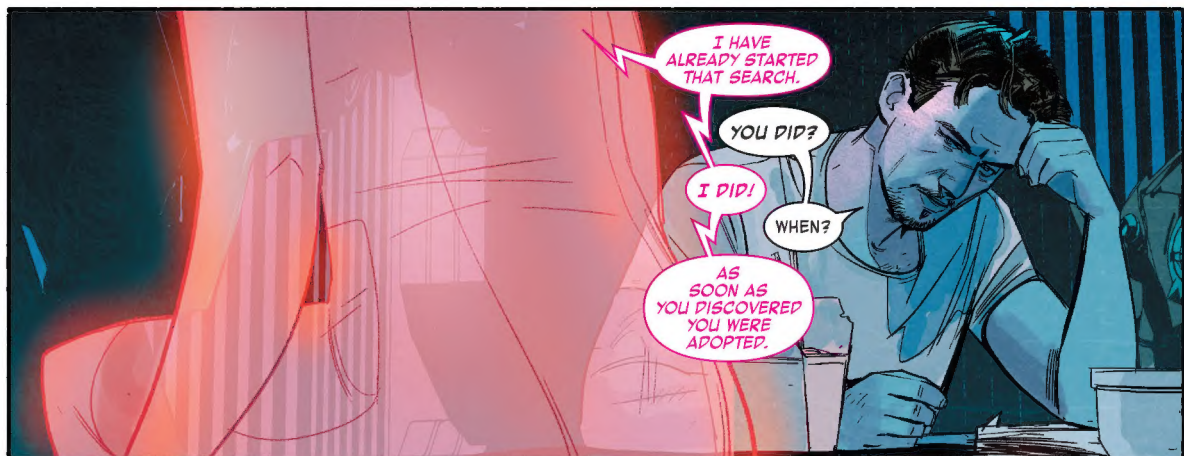
ON ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR?

MY PARENTS.

MY REAL BIOLOGICAL PARENTS.









**BULGARIA.**







HI. I'M--  
VIE  
STE TONY  
STARK.

YES, HI.  
AND YOU  
ARE--?

IRON  
MAN.

YOU  
ARE?

THAT'S  
AWKWARD, BECAUSE  
PEOPLE HAVE BEEN  
CALLING ME THAT  
FOR YEARS.



IZVINETE?

DO  
YOU SPEAK  
ENGLISH? I DO  
HAVE A TRANSLATOR  
PROGRAM  
FOR--

VHAT  
IS--VHY--VHAT IS  
IRON MAN DOING  
HERE?

YOU KNOW  
YOU ARE EEN  
BULGARIA.

YES, I  
FLEW HERE ON  
PURPOSE.



I'M--  
OH--I AM  
ANNA.

HI.

WHO CAN  
I SPEAK TO  
ABOUT--?

ME.  
I'M THE--I AM IN  
CHARGE. I AM THE  
ADMINISTRATOR.



I WAS--

IT SEEMS  
I WAS ADOPTED  
FROM HERE...MANY  
YEARS AGO.

WHEN  
I WAS A  
BABY.



NAISTINA  
LI?



I WAS TRYING TO RESEARCH  
THIS ON MY OWN BUT I RAN  
INTO AN UNUSUALLY  
HARD DEAD END.

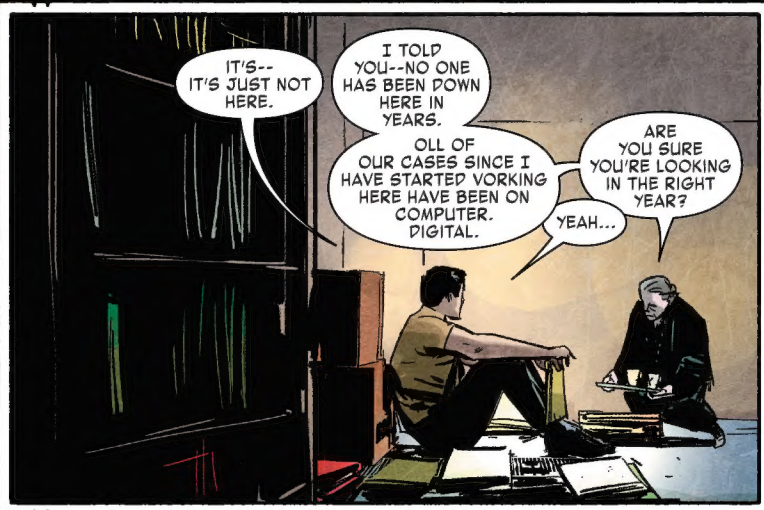
I WAS  
WONDERING IF  
THERE WERE FILES?  
PAPER FILES?  
DECADES-OLD  
PAPER FILES?

I WAS  
WONDERING  
IF YOU--IF YOU  
COULD HELP  
ME.





STILL NOTHING, MEESTER STARK?



IT'S-- IT'S JUST NOT HERE.

I TOLD YOU--NO ONE HAS BEEN DOWN HERE IN YEARS.

ALL OF OUR CASES SINCE I HAVE STARTED WORKING HERE HAVE BEEN ON COMPUTER. DIGITAL.

ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE LOOKING IN THE RIGHT YEAR?

YEAH...



I'M PRETTY GOOD WITH NUMBERS.

SOMEONE SOMEWHERE MUST HAVE TAKEN IT.

MY MOTHER WOULD HAVE NEVER--MY DAD...MY DAD WAS S.H.I.E.L.D. MY DAD TOOK IT.

HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO KNEW ABOUT THE ADOPTION.



NO.



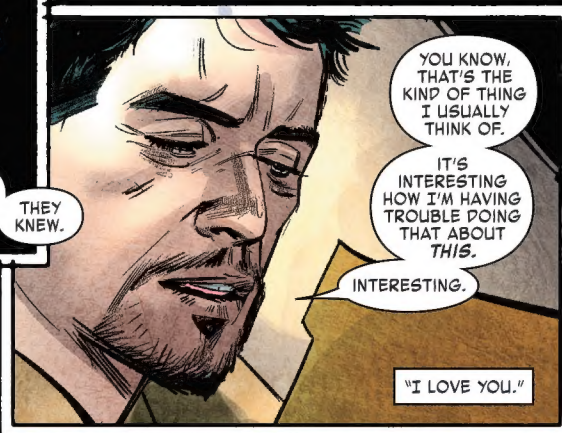
NO?



I MEAN... YOU WERE ADOPTED FROM SOMEONE.

WHOEVER GAVE YOU UP.

THEY KNEW.



YOU KNOW, THAT'S THE KIND OF THING I USUALLY THINK OF.

IT'S INTERESTING HOW I'M HAVING TROUBLE DOING THAT ABOUT THIS.

INTERESTING.

"I LOVE YOU."



AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND.  
TWENTY YEARS AGO.



TONY!

LISTEN  
TO ME.

IT'S NOT  
EASY FOR ME  
TO SAY THOSE  
WORDS!



TONY,  
PLEASE...

YOU  
WERE *USING* ME,  
CASSANDRA.

I REALLY  
WOULDN'T CALL  
IT THAT.

OH, GOOD.  
SEMANTICS.

I FELL  
IN LOVE WITH  
YOU.



DAMN IT,  
CASSANDRA! HE WAS  
RIGHT? MY FATHER  
WAS RIGHT?!

ONLY  
IN THE  
BEGINNING.  
YOU'RE NOT  
LISTENING  
TO--

THAT HYDRA  
ATTACK.

WAS  
IT EVEN  
REAL?



REAL?

WAS IT?

I--I DON'T  
KNOW.

YOU DON'T  
KNOW?

DOESN'T THE FACT  
THAT YOU DON'T EVEN *KNOW*  
IF THE TERRORIST ATTACK ON  
YOUR FAMILY DID TO SCREW WITH ME  
TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT THE  
QUALITY OF YOUR  
FAMILY?



AND YOUR PARENTS? THEY  
KNOW WHERE YOU ARE,  
DON'T THEY?

THEY DO.

SO YOU  
DIDN'T EVEN  
RUN AWAY  
WITH ME.

I DON'T  
HAVE THE SAME  
HOSTILITY TOWARDS  
MY PARENTS AS YOU  
HAVE TOWARD  
YOUR FATHER.

YOU  
KNOW  
THAT.



YOU *USED*  
ME TO GET TO  
MY FATHER.

AND IT WAS  
SUCH A STUPID WASTE  
OF TIME.

I BARELY  
EVEN SPEAK TO  
HIM AND--AND WE  
NEVER EVEN TALKED  
ABOUT MY FATHER.

YES, WE  
DID.

I NEVER  
TALK ABOUT  
HIM.

IT'S ALL  
YOU *EVER* TALK  
ABOUT.



GOOD!  
FINE!

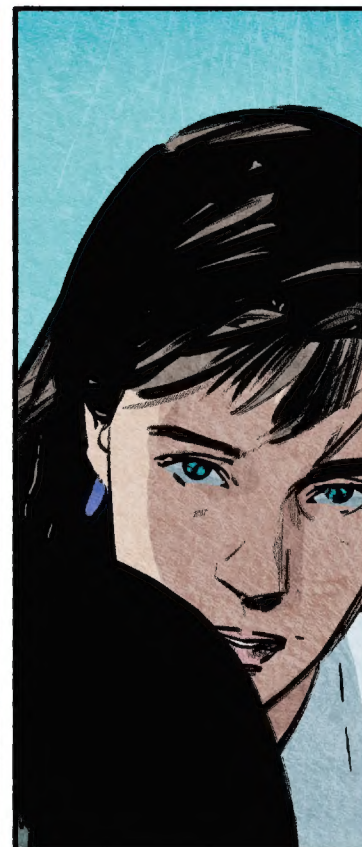
GO  
BACK TO  
THEM.

BUT  
LISTEN TO ME  
VERY CAREFULLY...  
I DON'T KNOW YOU.  
I DON'T NEED  
YOU.

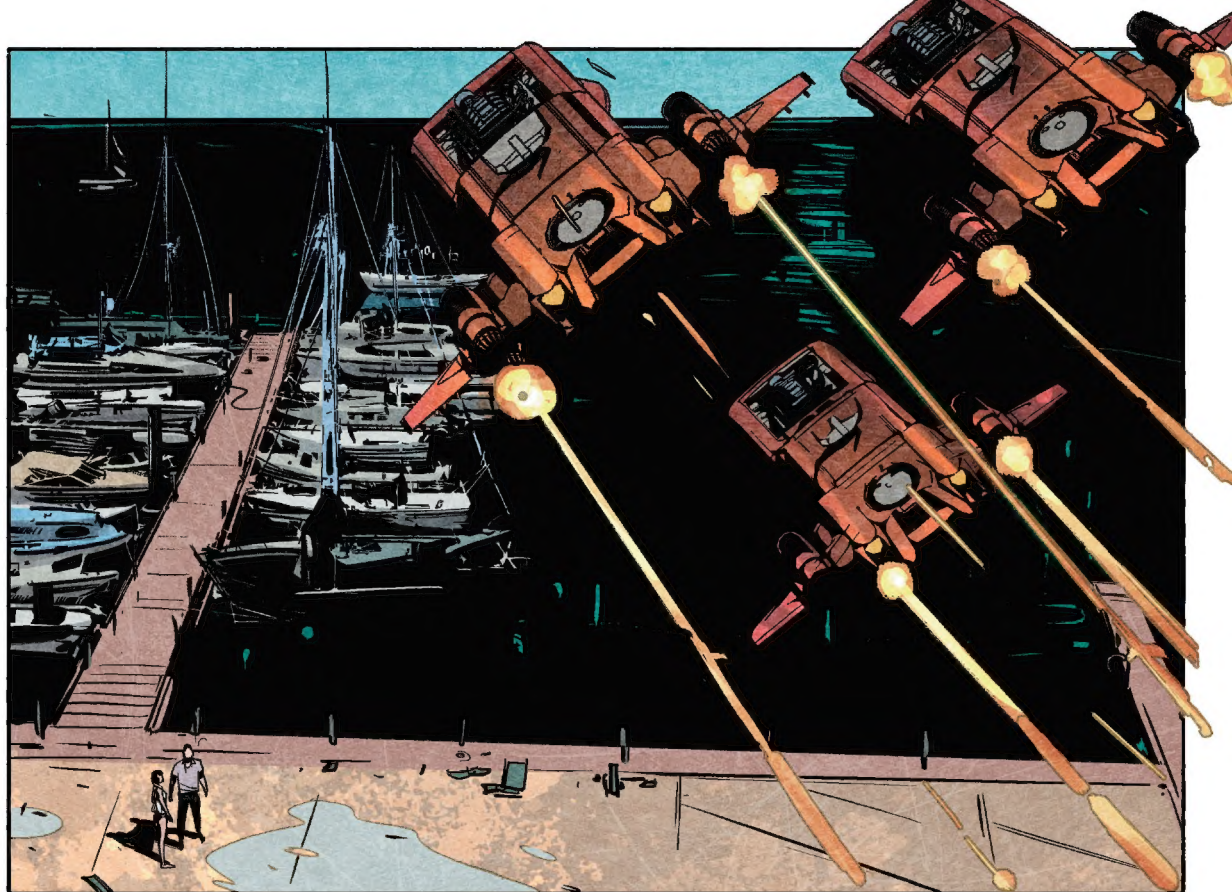


I LOVE  
YOU.

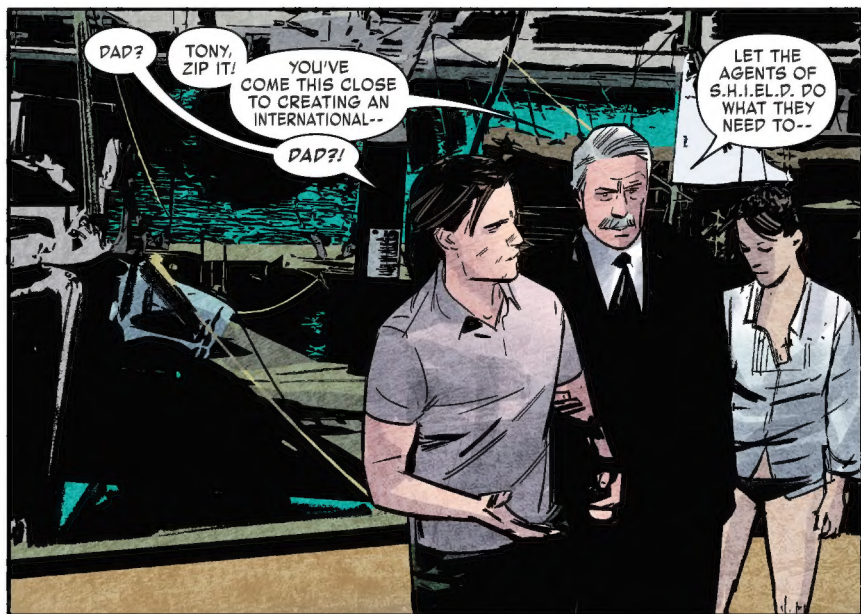
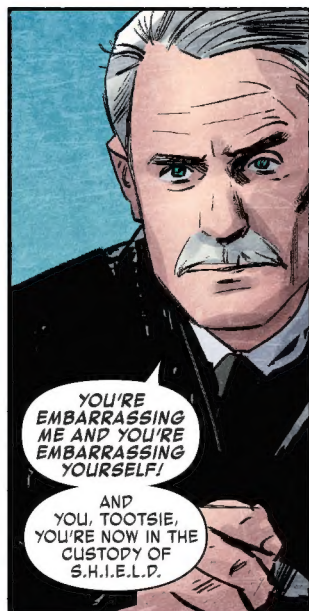
STOP  
SAYING THAT  
AS IF IT--



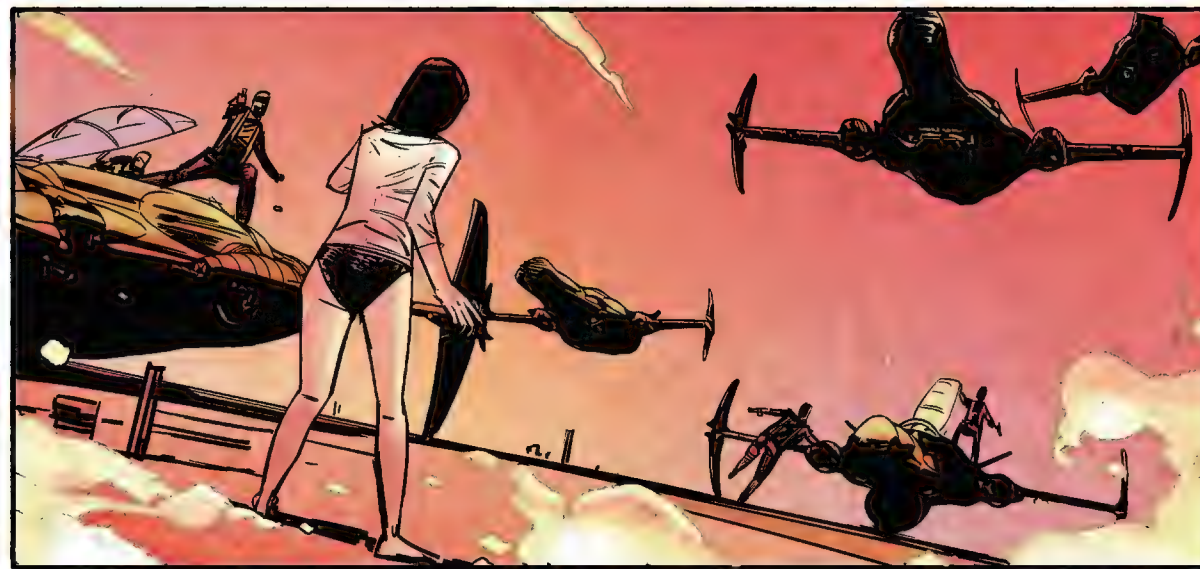




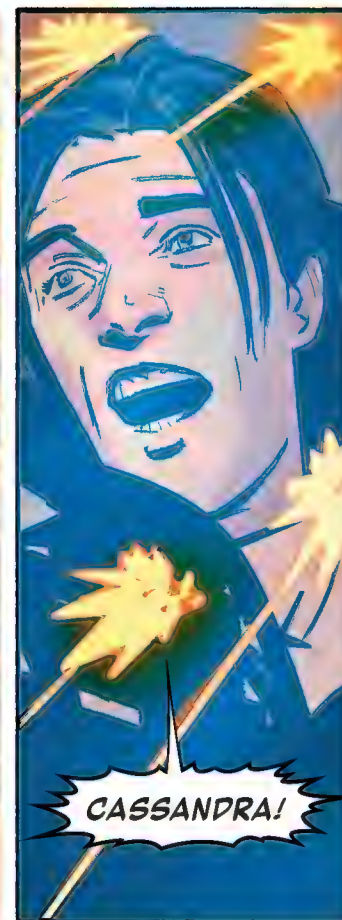
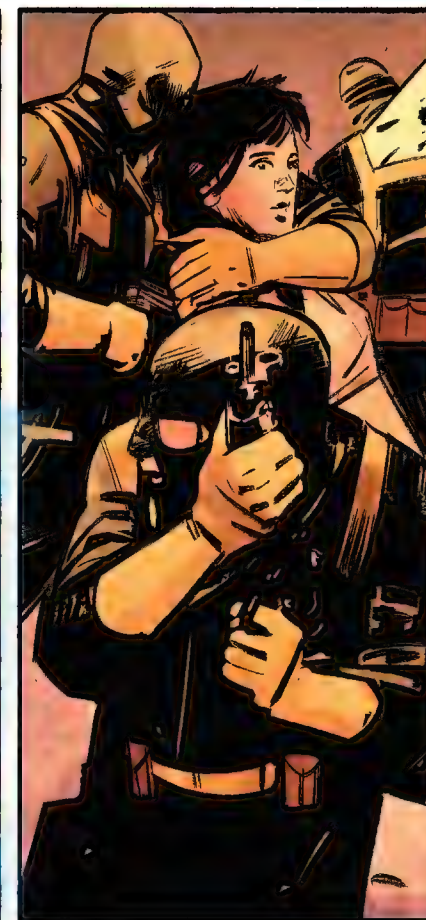
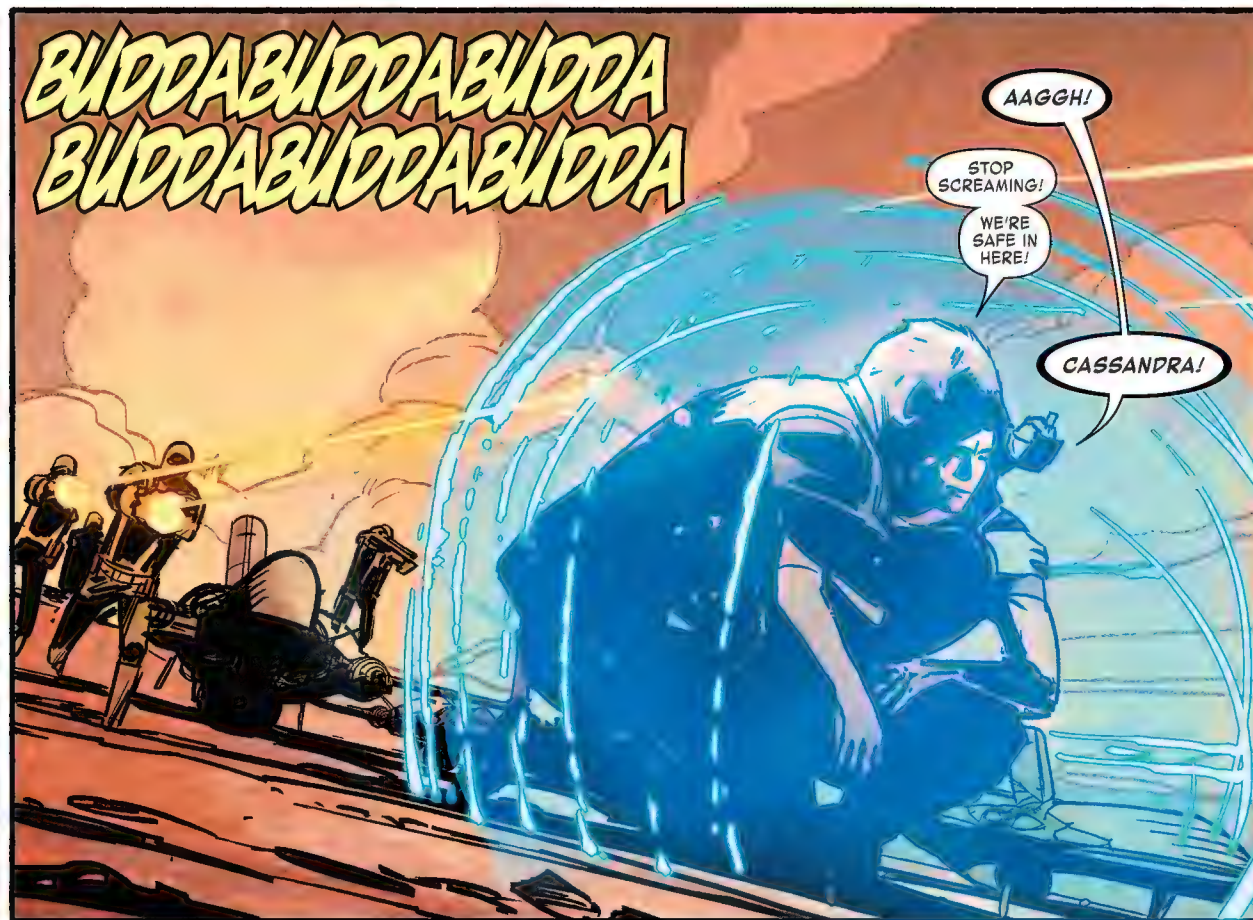






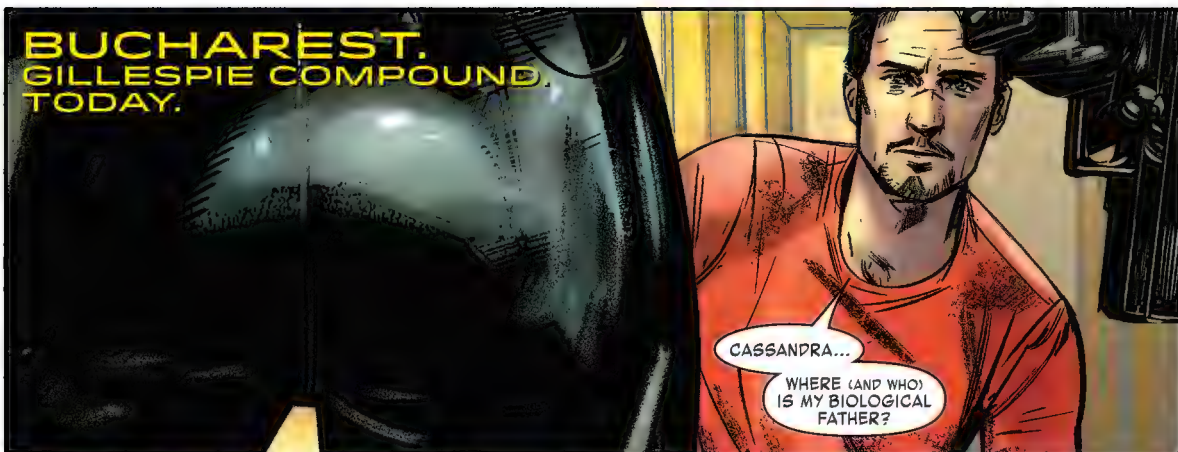








**BUCHAREST.**  
**GILLESPIE COMPOUND.**  
**TODAY.**



CASSANDRA...

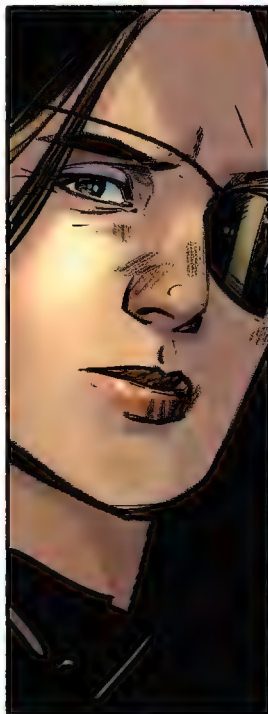
WHERE (AND WHO)  
IS MY BIOLOGICAL  
FATHER?



DAMN  
YOU.

ROLES  
REVERSED?  
EVEN AFTER ALL THESE  
YEARS AND ALL THE  
WHATEVER...

...I  
WOULD TELL  
YOU.

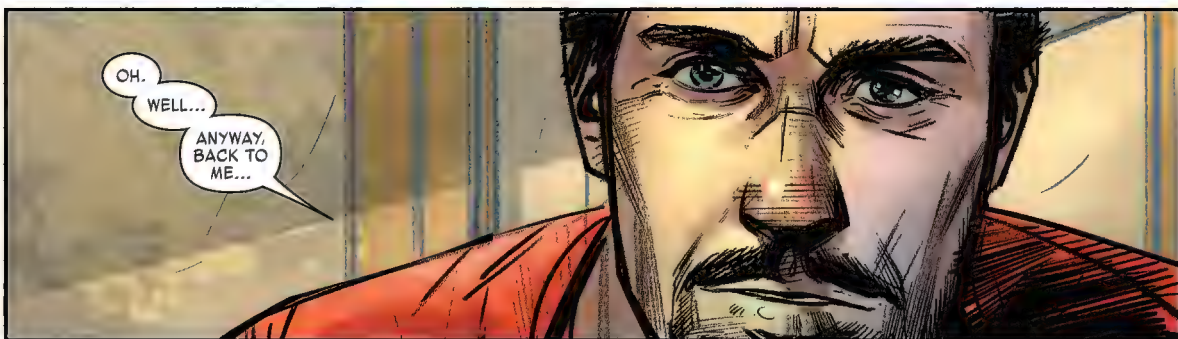


WHILE YOU  
TRY TO FIGURE  
OUT YOUR NEXT  
MOVE...

...HOW  
ARE YOUR  
PARENTS?



DEAD.



OH.

WELL...

ANYWAY,  
BACK TO  
ME...





TWENTY YEARS.  
YOU DON'T WANT TO ASK ME, NOW THAT WE'RE ALONE, HOW I AM STILL ALIVE?

WELL, EITHER HYDRA HELPED YOU FOR RANSOM AND YOUR PARENTS PAID IT...

...OR YOUR PARENTS FAKED THE WHOLE THING SO THEY COULD GRAB YOU FROM S.H.I.E.L.D. WITHOUT LEAVING A TRAIL DIRECTLY BACK TO THEM...

...OR YOU STAYED WITH HYDRA AND NOW YOU DO THIS.

EITHER WAY, I DON'T THINK I ACTUALLY CARE.

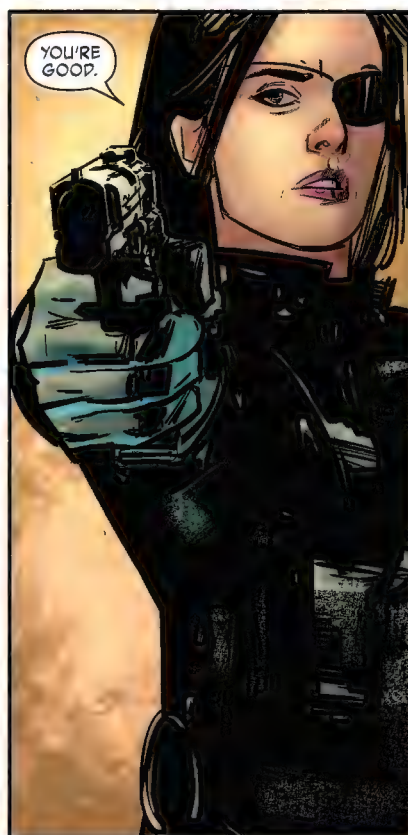
YOU CARE.



I GUESS WHAT I MEAN IS, IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER.

YOU'RE HERE, YOU'RE IN MY WAY AND I WANT ANSWERS.

AND THE FACT THAT YOU JUST **WILL** NOT ANSWER MY QUESTION MEANS YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW YOU HIT A LITTLE HIDDEN SECRET BUTTON AND ALERTED YOUR CREW OF MANDROIDS TO GET OVER HERE AND RESCUE YOU AND TAKE ME OUT.



YOU'RE GOOD.



IN THIS CONTEXT, NOT TO BRAG, I'M ACTUALLY THE BEST.

THE MANDROIDS' E.T.A. IS THREE MINUTES.

THREE MINUTES FOR YOU TO CHOOSE TO DO RIGHT BY ME.







THREE  
MINUTES TO  
CONVINCE  
YOU...

...THAT I  
TRULY...

...HAVE NO  
IDEA WHAT YOU  
ARE TALKING  
ABOUT.

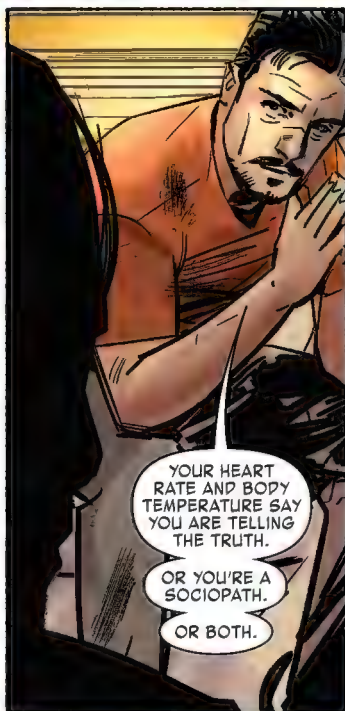
I DIDN'T  
EVEN KNOW  
YOU WERE  
ADOPTED.

IT'S A NEW  
TWIST.



WELL,  
TONY, I WISH  
I COULD HELP  
YOU.

AND  
I WISH YOU'D  
BELIEVE ME.



YOUR HEART  
RATE AND BODY  
TEMPERATURE SAY  
YOU ARE TELLING  
THE TRUTH.

OR YOU'RE A  
SOCIOPATH.

OR BOTH.



I HAVE  
WATCHED YOU  
ALL THESE  
YEARS.

WATCHED  
YOU TURN INTO  
AN AVENGER.  
A SUPER  
HERO.

WHEN YOU  
**CREATED** THE  
AVENGERS, I THOUGHT:  
THIS IS IT. ANY MINUTE  
NOW, WE WILL CROSS  
PATHS AGAIN.



AND WHEN  
YOU TOOK OVER  
S.H.I.E.L.D., I SAID  
TO MYSELF: THIS IS IT.  
THIS IS WHERE WE  
CROSS PATHS  
AGAIN.

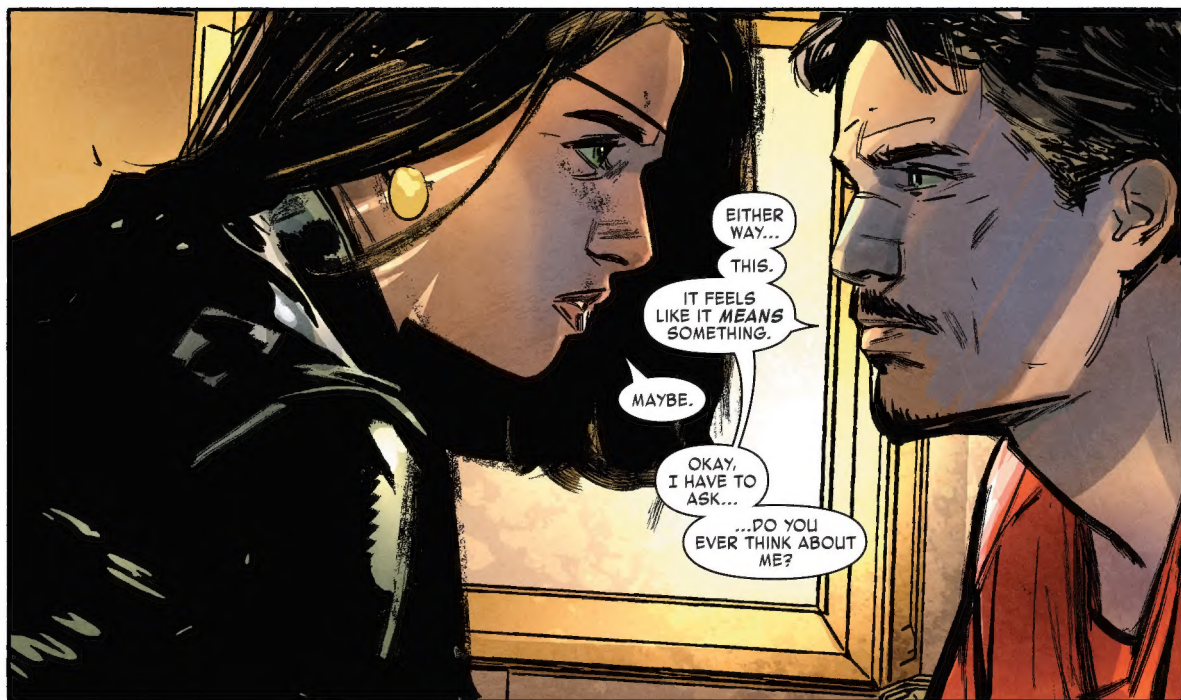
BUT...

...IT NEVER  
HAPPENED.

YOU'RE  
THAT GOOD,  
I GUESS.

HOW DID  
YOU DO THAT BY  
THE WAY?











I CAN'T.

MY ENTIRE  
LIFE'S WORK IS  
WRAPPED AROUND  
STRENGTH.

IF I  
LET THIS GO...IF  
I LET YOU WALK  
AWAY...

...I'M  
RUINED.

YEAH.

SO, YOU  
GOT A HUSBAND?  
WIFE? KIDS?

TIME'S UP,  
TONY.

YEAH...

TO BE  
CONTINUED...



# NEXT ISSUE:



# BREAKUP BLUES